UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE WASHINGTON, DC 20231

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SEP - 9 2002

Paper NO. 3

In re Application of

Keith G. Copeland et al.

Serial Number: 10/054,535

Filed: January 22, 2002

For: AUTOMATED BIOLOGICAL REACTION

APPARATUS

DECISION ON

PETITION UNDER

M.P.E.P. 708.02, II

This is a decision on the Petition to Make Special because of Actual Infringement (37 C.F.R. 1.102 and MPEP 708.02) filed January 22, 2002, along with the requisite fee (paid), in the above-noted application. The petition with accompanying statement, meet the requirements of Section 708.02 (II) of the MPEP.

If the examiner finds any interfering application for the same subject matter, the examiner should consider such application simultaneously with this case and should state in the official letter of such application that the examiner is taking it out of its turn because of a possible interference.

Should an appeal be taken in this case or should this case become involved in an interference, consideration of the appeal and the interference will be expedited by Patent and Trademark Office Officials concerned, contingent likewise upon diligent prosecution by applicant.

After allowance, this case will be given priority for printing. See MPEP 1309.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

Richard V. Fisher, Director Technology Center 1700

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